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ABSTRACT

This manual is intended to help regular and special educators and related professionals to better serve special learners in inclusive settings through identifying practical strategies for the classroom and school, and techniques for overcoming barriers to inclusion. The manual is written in a question-and-answer format. The first chapter addresses the challenge of inclusion, covering its rationale, components, controversies, and benefits and outcomes. The second chapter focuses on strategies for overcoming barriers to inclusion, the continuum of placement options, assessment of student needs for instruction, assessment of readiness for inclusion, staff development needs, planning for inclusion, class size, curriculum modifications, support services, interdisciplinary teams, the role of technology, promotion of parent participation, the transition from school to work, and the future of inclusion. This chapter also details a 10-step approach to implementing inclusion, from conducting a needs assessment through identifying technical assistance resources, and use of evaluation information for improvement. Chapter 3 focuses on resources for implementation of inclusion, including public policies promoting inclusion, assessment tools, and five case studies. The fourth chapter provides resources for trainers such as worksheets and transparencies keyed to the 10-step approach and a sample staff development plan. (Contains approximately 150 references.) (DB)

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